Veterans Day 2021

On November 11th, we pause to reflect on the history of this great Nation and honor all those who fought to defend it. Originally titled "Armistice Day" and intended to celebrate the end of World War I, "the war to end all wars," Veterans Day allows us to give thanks to veterans past and present, men and women from all walks of life and all ethnicities, who stood up and said, "Send me." We recognize your sacrifices, your sense of duty and your love for this country.

Veterans Day is also the beginning of the longer holiday season, and a time of travel and many offduty events. Use this opportunity to check on your fellow Soldiers. A simple question inquiring about their holiday plans or a reaffirmation of their importance to you, the Army and this country has the potential to make a difference and keep them safe and alive.

Stay accountable to not only your unit, but also to those who serve alongside you. We urge all first-line leaders to check in with your Soldiers. You know your troops, now get to know their plans for the holiday, and identify any possible risk factors. As we work together to create a culture of safety, use the resources available to you and your unit on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center website at https://safety.army.mil.

Thank you again for your service to this great country. We wish you a safe and happy Veterans Day. Please stay vigilant through the extended holiday season.

People First — Winning Matters — Readiness Through Safety!

William L. Gardner II Command Sergeant Major

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